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25X1A

- 2 -

Vietnamese towards US citizens has deteriorated markedly. This is due to the US military aid being given the French in Indochina, and US citizens are beginning to experience the same difficulties as the French when dealing with the Vietnamese.

5. The Free Lao organization is active in northeast Thailand, advocating the formation of an independent Laotian State including Laos and parts of Thailand. Tieng Sirikhan is the leader of the organization in the northeast area. He is also a legislative representative in Bangkok from Sakon Nakhon. His brother is active in the Free Lao organization also and both have been in direct opposition to Premier Phibun. In February 1953, Tieng's car was found abandoned on Burma border, and he has not been seen since. Several years ago, Tieng visited the US as the guest of a US citizen        who owns a mulberry grove at Nong Khai, Thailand. Tieng is about 43, and speaks good English.
6. Road conditions in northeast Thailand are but fair. The primary road between Udon (17°25'N - 102°47'E) and Nakhon Phanom (17°24'N - 104°46'E) via Sakon Nakhon is gravel surface suitable for continuing two way traffic. Work gangs are kept on the road. It is all weather. The road between Udon and Chiang Khan (17°53'N - 101°36'E) via Muang Loei (17°31'N - 101°33'E) has been improved and is now all weather gravel surface. Limited two way traffic is possible. Steel bridges have been erected across Huai Phon River at Wang Saphung (17°23'N - 101°37'E), and across Nam Loei River at Ban That (17°43'N - 101°35'E).

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